

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KATHMA 00199 140801Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01
TRSE-00 IO-13 DHA-02 EA-07 EUR-12 /091 W
-----140806Z 038933 /14

R 140535Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7197
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 0199

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NP, US

REF: NEW DELHI 0551

1. WE ARE SOMEWHAT DISTURBED BY NEPALESE AMBASSADOR
MALL'S CALL ON OUR CHARGE IN NEW DELHI AS REPORTED REFTEL,
SINCE IT CORROBRATES REPORTS WE HAVE HEARD THAT SOME PERSONS
BELIEVE KOIRALA'S RETURN TO NEPAL WAS AIDED OR SUPPORTED BY
THE US.

2. SUCH RUMORS ARE TO BE EXPECTED PERHPAS AS THE GOVERNMENT
HAS, FROM ALL ACCOUNTS, BEEN GENUINELY BAFFLED AT WHAT PROMPTED
KOIRALA TO RETURN AND FACE ARREST AT THIS POINT. WE HAVE HEARD
THAT AT A CABINET MEETING RECENTLY A NUMBER OF THEORIES WERE
DISCUSSED INCLUDING ONE THAT THE US HAD LOST FAITH IN THE
MONARCHY'S ABILITY TO RULE AND HAD, THEREFORE, DECIDED TO
BACK B.P. KOIRALA IN ORDER TO PREVENT INDIAN TAKEOVER OF
NEPAL. THIS, AND SIMILAR RUMORS OF USG INVOLVEMENT, DO
NOT APPEAR WIDESPREAD, ALTHOUGH MANY CLAIMED TO SEE
KOIRALA'S RETURN AS AN INDIAN PLOT AIMED AT CREATING
POLITICAL CRISIS IN NEPAL. THIS THEORY, TOO, IS LOSING
FAVOR AND THE MAJORITY OF THE KATHMANDU POLITICAL
INTELLIGENTSIA APPEAR TO HAVE COME TO BELIEVE THAT
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KOIRALA WAS MORE OR LESS FORCED BY CIRCUMSTANCES AND
LACK OF INDIAN SUPPORT TO RETURN TO NEPAL.

3. MALLA'S STATEMENT THAT KOIRALA CLAIMED "BIG POERS"
BACKING IS THE FIRST WE HAVE HEARD OF SUCH A CLAIM BY
KOIRALA, SINCE TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE HE HAS BEEN
REFUSED AN AUDIENCE WITH ANY MEMBER OF THE GOVERNMENT.

IN THE FACE OF INDIAN DIENIAL OF INVOLVEMENT AND OTHER
COLLATERAL EVIDENCE WE, TOO, CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT
KOIRALA IS ATTEMPETING TO BLUFF, ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT
CERTAIN TO WHAT END.
EAVES

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Message Attributes

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